

CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 8, 13, and 15-23 as follows:

1. [Currently Amended] A method for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the method comprising:
initializing a load/store buffer by loading a first aligned word of fixed length into the load/store buffer from memory;
further initializing the load/store buffer by loading a second aligned word into the load/store buffer from the memory;
reading one or more data sequences from the load/store buffer into a register file for instruction execution, such that the total length of the sequences in each read does not exceed the fixed length of the first aligned word; and
loading additional aligned words to the load/store buffer from the memory to replace data sequences that are read.
2. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the data sequence length is a byte.
3. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the data sequence length is a bit.
4. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the computing system comprises a processor having an extensible instruction set.

5. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the computing system comprises a general-purpose processor.
6. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the first aligned word is stored in a first memory location and the second aligned word is stored in an adjacent second memory location, and the second memory location is accessed by incrementing a memory address pointer after the first aligned word is accessed.
7. [Original] The method of claim 1 wherein the first aligned word is stored in a first memory location and the second aligned word is stored in an adjacent second memory location, and the second memory location is accessed by decrementing a memory address pointer after the first aligned word is accessed.
8. [Currently Amended] A method for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the method comprising:
- initializing a load/store buffer by filling the load/store buffer with one or more unaligned data sequences from a register file for instruction execution, such that the total length of each data sequence does not exceed the fixed length of an aligned word;
- writing one or more unaligned data sequences to the initialized load/store buffer, such that the written unaligned data shifts the ~~an~~ aligned word into a memory location; and
- flushing the load/store buffer in order to store any of the remaining unaligned data into memory.

9. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the data sequence length is a byte.
10. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the data sequence length is a bit.
11. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the computing system comprises a processor having an extensible instruction set.
12. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the computing system comprises a general-purpose processor.
13. [Currently Amended] The method of claim 8 wherein the aligned word is stored in a first memory location and an ~~the~~ next aligned word is stored in an adjacent second memory location, and the second memory location is accessed by incrementing a memory address pointer after the first aligned word is accessed.
14. [Original] The method of claim 8 wherein the aligned word is stored in a first memory location and the next aligned word is stored in an adjacent second memory location, and the second memory location is accessed by decrementing a memory address pointer after the first aligned word is accessed.

15. [Currently Amended] A system for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the system comprising:
- means for initializing a load/store buffer by loading a first aligned word of fixed length from memory into the load/store buffer;
 - means for further initializing the load/store buffer by loading a second aligned word from the memory into the load/store buffer;
 - means for reading one or more data sequences from the load/store buffer into a register file for instruction execution, such that the total length of the sequences in each read does not exceed the fixed length of the first aligned word; and
 - means for loading additional aligned words from the memory to the load/store buffer to replace data sequences that are read.
16. [Currently Amended] A system for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the system comprising:
- means for initializing a load/store buffer by filling the load/store buffer from a register file for instruction execution with one or more unaligned data sequences, such that the total length of each data sequence does not exceed the fixed length of an aligned word;
 - means for writing one or more unaligned data sequences to the initialized load/store buffer, such that the written unaligned data shifts an aligned word into a memory location; and
 - means for flushing the load/store buffer in order to store any of the remaining unaligned data into memory.

17. [Currently Amended] A system comprising:

a load/store buffer configured to store data; and

a processor configured to execute GET instructions for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the GET instructions comprising the steps:

initializing a the load/store buffer by loading a first aligned word of fixed length into

the load/store buffer from memory;

further initializing the load/store buffer by loading a second aligned word from the

memory into the load/store buffer;

reading one or more data sequences from the load/store buffer into a register file for

instruction execution, such that the total length of the sequences in each read does

not exceed the fixed length of the first aligned word; and

loading additional aligned words to the load/store buffer from the memory to replace

data sequences that are read.

18. [Currently Amended] The system~~GET instruction~~ of claim 17 in which the number of data sequences read is an immediate specified number.

19. [Currently Amended] The system~~GET instruction~~ of claim 17 in which the number of data sequences read is a specified number stored as an index in a register memory.

20. [Currently Amended] The system ~~GET instruction~~ of claim 17 in which a first of the one or more data sequences read is located at a first memory location and the one or more data sequences comprises a specified number of data sequences stored as a first index in a register memory, wherein the subsequent data sequence following the first of the data sequences is located at a second memory location pointed to by a second index.

21. [Currently Amended] A system comprising:

a load/store buffer configured to store data; and

a processor configured to execute PUT instructions for processing data sequences of arbitrary length in a computing system, the PUT instructions ~~method~~ comprising:

initializing at the load/store buffer by filling the load/store buffer with one or more

unaligned data sequences from a register file for instruction execution, such that

the total length of each data sequence does not exceed the fixed length of an aligned word;

writing one or more unaligned data sequences to the initialized load/store buffer, such

that the written unaligned data shifts an aligned word into a memory location; and

flushing the load/store buffer in order to store any of the remaining unaligned data into memory.

22. [Currently Amended] The system ~~PUT instruction~~ of claim 21 in which the number of unaligned data sequences written is an immediate specified number.

23. [Currently Amended] The system ~~PUT instruction~~ of claim 21 in which the number of unaligned data sequences written is a specified number stored as an index in a register memory.